

Brent S. Stewart, Ph.D., J.D.

Senior Research Scientist, Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute

Major Research Areas

Population Biology, Ecology, Behavior, Genetics, Infectious Disease & Physiology of Marine Vertebrates

Education

Juris Doctorate (Law), Boalt Hall

School of Law, University of

California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Biology, University of California, Los Angeles

M.S., Ecology, San Diego State University,

B.A., Biology, University of California, Los Angeles

Affiliations

Adjunct Professor: *University of San Diego*

Affiliate Faculty: *University of California (Davis) School of Veterinary Medicine and Wildlife Health Center*

National Fellow, *The Explorers Club*

Fellow, *Royal Geographical Society*

Associate Editor, *Marine Biology*

Associate Editor, *Aquatic Biology*



Background

Dr. Stewart has studied the population biology, foraging and physiological ecology, genetics, infectious diseases, and behavior of marine mammals, sea birds, sea turtles, and whale sharks for four decades years. His research expeditions have ranged in the North Atlantic from Greenland and Iceland in the North Atlantic south to Marion Island in the South Atlantic, in the Indian Ocean at Kenya, the Philippines, West Papua, the Maldives and Western Australia, at Russia's Lake Baikal and along the coast of Kamchatka, from the Beaufort and Bering Seas south through temperate, tropical and equatorial waters in the North Pacific Ocean (including the Southern California Channel Islands, Baja California, and the Galapagos), in the Weddell, Amundsen, and Ross Seas of the Antarctic's Southern Ocean, several Sub-Antarctic Islands, and in China's Yangtze River. Dr. Stewart's focus in these comparative studies has been discovering and understanding what habitats are important to these various large marine vertebrates, how they navigate and migrate over vast areas to find and use those habitats, how they hunt and capture prey necessary to sustain breeding and fasting periods and successfully reproduce, how they interact with each other (populations and species) while sharing habitats and resources, how they respond to and adjust to short and long term natural and anthropogenic changes in those key habitats, and how infectious disease effects individual and population health.

Dr. Stewart served as a *Science and Diplomacy Fellow* in the Bureau of Oceans at the U.S. State Department from 1999 to 2001.

During that period, Dr. Stewart served as a DoS representative to the National Invasive Council and worked to add infectious disease to the Council's agenda as an important concern for wildlife management and food security.

In 2011, Dr. Stewart was awarded the prestigious Lowell Thomas Medal by the Explorers Club and Rolex Inc. for his career efforts to explore, understand, and conserve Earth's ocean wildlife, and in 2012 was recognized as one of forty of the world's leading conservation biologists.